

2004 New Zealand Petroleum Conference set to be best yet!

27 January 2004 - How does one measure "best"? Without fail every one of the eight New Zealand Petroleum Conferences held to date has had some claim to being the "best". Be it in the content of the papers, the prestige of the keynote speakers, the enthusiasm of the delegates, the number of delegates attending, the networking done or a great conference location.

By all these yardsticks, the 2004 conference being held in Auckland from 7-10 March can justifiably lay claim to holding the potential to be the "biggest and best yet"!

To date over 300 delegates have registered for the conference, the greatest number at this stage of run up to the conference.

The opening and following keynote speeches initially place New Zealand in the international energy scene and then make a critical assessment of New Zealand's energy situation, and the need for more intensive exploration and local gas and oil production.

Importantly not only will New Zealand's explorers be talking about their past and planned work, but the producers, the gas transmitters and users will all be openly addressing the state of the industry.

The closing session is set to point the way forward featuring the viewpoints of active explorationists as well as what the regulators are going to do to encourage exploration and development of New Zealand's oil and gas resources.

Technical reports will consider recent work and technical developments from New Zealand's producing Field's in the Taranaki Basin, and the promising East Coast, Canterbury and Great South Basins, all with previous discoveries. The developing local LPG and coal seam gas industries will also be thoroughly assessed, together with future energy alternatives including LNG from within and outside New Zealand.

While the energy demand/gas supply situation will feature strongly at the 2004 conference, the 'commercial' side of the conference papers will feature funding, governance, legal, taxation and investment banking perspectives. Altogether there will be a record total of 77 papers presented.

The conference will be a great opportunity for those interested in New Zealand's petroleum potential to bring themselves up-to-date and to meet the key people in the industry.

One Conference opportunity, of particular interest to those who wish to find out more about New Zealand's petroleum geology, is the preConference field trip to the Taranaki Basin led by leading geologists from GNS, the government geological research institute.

If you wish to take advantage of this opportunity contact Peter King, Greg Browne or Malcolm Arnot at GNS, phone +64 4 570 1444 (email: p.king@gns.cri.nz).